

**MINUTES OF THE  
PUBLIC UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY INTERIM COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, July 18, 2007 – 9:00 a.m. – Room W015 House Building

**Members Present:**

Sen. Scott K. Jenkins, Senate Chair  
Rep. Michael E. Noel, House Chair  
Sen. Mike Dmitrich  
Sen. Carlene M. Walker  
Rep. Roger E. Barrus  
Rep. Ralph Becker  
Rep. Jim Bird  
Rep. Melvin R. Brown  
Rep. Janice M. Fisher  
Rep. Lynn M. Hemingway  
Rep. Steven R. Mascaro  
Rep. Kay L. McIff  
Rep. Aaron Tilton  
Rep. Richard W. Wheeler

**Members Excused:**

Sen. Darin G. Peterson

**Staff Present:**

Mr. Richard C. North, Policy Analyst  
Mr. Christopher R. Parker, Associate General Counsel  
Ms. Tracey Fredman, Legislative Secretary

**Note:** A list of others present, a copy of related materials, and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at [www.le.utah.gov](http://www.le.utah.gov).

**1. Committee Business**

Chair Noel called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m.

**MOTION:** Sen. Jenkins moved to approve the minutes of the June 20, 2007 meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Dmitrich, Rep. Becker, Rep. Brown, Rep. Mascaro, Rep. Tilton, and Rep. Wheeler were absent for the vote.

**2. Nuclear Power**

Mr. Parker distributed and reviewed "2006, Florida Nuclear Power Legislation."

Mr. North reviewed legislation of other states and resolutions encouraging development of nuclear utilities.

Ms. Vanessa Pierce, HEAL (Healthy Environment Alliance of Utah), distributed "Energy Bill Offers Efficient Tax Breaks." She discussed the costs of nuclear power and responded to questions from the Committee.

Chair Noel said Utah has the potential to produce nuclear power and that it should not be discouraged. He opened the floor for committee discussion.

Rep. Barrus gave a history of the voluntary energy work group that created a framework for the state's energy policy a few years ago.

Ms. Kathy Van Dame, Wasatch Clean Air Coalition, commented on her experience in the voluntary energy work group.

**MOTION:** Rep. Mascaro moved that staff draft a committee bill to address a nuclear energy policy for the state. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Dmitrich and Rep. Becker absent for the vote.

### **3. Western Climate Initiative**

Dr. Dianne Nielson, Energy Advisor, Governor's Office, distributed and reviewed "Gov. Huntsman – Western Climate Initiative." Dr. Nielson spoke in support of the study of nuclear energy and responded to questions from the Committee.

Mr. Kyle Davis, Manager, Environmental Policy, PacifiCorp, distributed and commented on "PacifiCorp - Western Climate Initiative," with a focus on carbon policy.

Mr. Reed Searle, Intermountain Power Agency, said the global warming issue must be addressed and cannot be ignored by any industry that releases emissions of any kind.

Mr. Ted Rampton, Government Affairs Manager, Utah Associated Municipal Power Systems, spoke to the issue of renewable resources.

Mr. Kimball Rasmussen, CEO, Deseret Power Electric Cooperative, commented on the cost increase the climate initiative would have on rural cooperatives.

### **4. Renewable Energy Tax Credit Utilization**

This item was not discussed.

### **5. Other Items / Adjourn**

Chair Noel adjourned the meeting at 12:03 p.m.